



To: Joel D. Boyd, Ed.D Superintendent
From: Latifah Phillips, Chief Equity and Engagement Officer
Date: June 16, 2023
Re: Motion Response

This memo is in response to the following motion:

[By Dominic Lay]: Request the Superintendent provide an update on the types of head coverings that are allowed and prohibited for students at Lowell High School and how the relevant rules are managed to ensure equity across classrooms and fairness in discipline for all students.

Below is the language within the 2022-23 High School Student Handbook that outlines which head coverings are prohibited. The language specifically referring to head coverings is in bold language. The handbook also includes language on the expectations for how the rules are implemented.

Proper Dress

While we recognize that choices on attire are important, there are minimum requirements that all students must adhere to:

- *Clothing must cover areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, down to approximately 3-4 inches in length to the upper thighs and tops must have a shoulder strap.*
- *See-through or mesh garments must not be worn without appropriate coverage underneath that meet the minimum requirements of the dress code.*

*To ensure an environment that is safe and welcoming for all, students are **prohibited** from wearing the following:*

- ***Hoods***, ski masks, balaclavas, neck gaiters, sunglasses or anything else that interferes with identification.
- *Clothing, backpacks, jewelry or accessories that are lewd, promote violence or hate for any individuals or groups, degrade the beliefs of others, or promote drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or weapons or other prohibited items.*

The Head of School or designee retains the right to deem anything that distracts, disrupts, intimidates, or provokes as inappropriate.

Students who violate this policy will be directed to remove the offensive or unsafe items before being allowed to remain in school. Students who refuse to adhere to this policy will be in violation of school rules and penalized according to school policy.